ASCS Today

USDA discontinues carryover program

By TOM CONRAD

USDA To Discontinue Burley, Flue-Cured Tobacco Carryover Program- The excess poundage carryover program for burley and flue-cured tobacco will not be continued for the 1983 and subsequent marketing years.

The program was reinstated for the 1982 crop only, after having been in effect for the crop year 1972 through 1978. Excess tobacco is that produced in excess of 110 percent of the effective farm quota. The program provided for safe storage of such tobacco produced primarily for reasons beyond the producer's control.

The program was discontinued beginning with the 1979 crop because it stimulated overproduction, with producers intentionally producing excess tobacco; and there was no provision in law for reducing the farm quota for the following year, even though some of the quota would be displaced by pounds held in carryover. It tended to contribute to the rising costs of leasing quota; large amounts of carryover depreseed auction market prices; and over production encouraged increased incidents of false identification.

It has been determined that the carryover program is not in the best interests of producers and other segments of the tobacco industry. Support for this determination has been received from various farm and warehouse organizations, producers and members of Congress. Therefore, early announcement is made so producers will not plant excess acreage in anticipation of continuance of the program.

USDA Extends Comment Period on Burley, Flue-Cured Marketing Quota Rules - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has extended by 30 days - until June 22 -the comment period on its proposal regarding the sale or forfeiture of allotments and quotas for burley and flue-cured tobaccos.

The deadline for submitting comments originally was May 23. Under the proposal, entities, but not individuals, not significantly involved in management or use of land for agricultural purposes would be required to sell or forfeit burley and flue-cured allotments or quotas.

The proposed change would apply to allotments or quotas on land owned by governmental entities, public utilities, educational and religious institutions, among others.

USDA extended the comment period in response to numerous requests for such action and because of the Wide range of the proposal's effects and the great interest shown so far.

Comments will be accepted by the Director, Tobacco and Peanut Division, USDA/ASCS, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013. All comments will be available for public inspection in room 5750 of USDA's South Building.

Good News for Homemakers

About security

By SHIRLEY W. WALTON
Extension Agent

Security While Traveling

Persons are vulnerable to theft, robbery and assault while vacationing away from home. You can reduce the chances of becoming a victim by using the following tips:

1. Before starting a trip, estimate expenses and purchase sufficient travelers checks. Never carry large amounts of cash. Cash can't be replaced but travelers checks can. Remember to record the check numbers and keep them in a safe place.

2. Carry credit cards. Record their numbers and leave the record in a safe place, possibly with someone you can contact easily. You will need the number to report loss of theft and to have the cards replaced.

3. Leave unnecessary valuables at home. Make sure your suitcases are permanently identified with your name and address and that they have locking devices. Check your homeowners insurance to determine what coverage is provided while traveling or staying in a hotel or motel.

4. If you are traveling by automobile, empty the trunk of unnecessary items. Never leave anything valuable in the car unless it is stored in the locked trunk or covered storage well. If you turn your car over to a parking attendant or service station, leave only the ignition key. Never leave the trunk or house keys. Make sure that your house keys don't have your name or address on them.

5. Portable citizen band radios should be removed from the passenger compartment and put in the locked trunk whenever you stay for any length of time and the car is out of sight.

6. When stopping at a hotel or motel, determine the most direct route to and from the room, the most direct route to the fire escapes, elevators and the nearest hall phone. Lingering in hallways is an invitation for assault.

7. When in your hotel or motel room, use all auxiliary locking devices on the doors and windows. Don't rely on chains as the only deterrent. Use the door viewer to identify anyone requesting entry before you open the door, and only open it if you are certain the person has legitimate reasons for entering the room. If in doubt, call the motel or hotel office.

8. Once safely in the room, unpack and place belongings in the closet and dresser. Lock and store empty suitcases so they can't be used to carry your property out of the hotel room. Place all valuables in the hotel safe.

9. Be alert when traveling in hallways, elevators and parking lots. Report suspicious persons to hotel security personnel.

10. When alone, don't enter an elevator with anyone who arouses your suspicions. If someone you are not sure about gets on with you, wait to signal your destination until they get off, even if it means riding back to the lobby. Stand close to the control panel so you can reach the emergency alarm if necessary. Have a friend or hotel employee walk with you to your car if it is parked in a dark area. You can drop that person back at the main entrance.

These tips can help insure you of a safe trip. Common sense and a little caution can confound crooks and make your traveling safe and leisurely.

If you have a homemaking question or problem, you may call 352-8244 or write P.O. Box 488, Appomattox, VA 24522.

Have a good week!

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Strawberry Bread

3 C flour
2 C. sugar
3 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. soda
1 tsp. salt
1¼ c. cooking oil
4 eggs, beaten
2 (10 oz.) pkg. frozen strawberries, thawed or 1 qt. fresh berries (sweetened to taste)
1¼ C. chopped nuts

Combine sugar, flour, cinnamon, soda and salt in a large bowl. Add cooking oil and eggs. Mix thoroughly.

Stir in strawberries and nuts. Pour batter into 2 greased and flowered 9 X 5 X 3 inch loaf pans and bake at 350° for 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Many thanks go to Betty Jones, a second grade teacher at Appomattox Primary School for sharing this delicious recipe with us.

CRAIG RANSON, left, is shown accepting the Dark Tobacco Award, a check in the amount of $75.00, for his work with dark tobacco. Making the presentation is E. Carter Martin.

Ranson wins tobacco award

Craig Ranson, 14-year-old 4-H member and son of Mr. and Mrs. Chalie G. Ranson of Pamplin, is presented a check for $75.00 by Mr. E. Carter Martin, representing the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Growers Association. Craig's award was based on his work and record keeping with his 1982 Dark Fired tobacco crop. The 4-H Dark Tobacco Growers program encourages young people, age 12 and up, to grow and keep accurate records on a minimum of three-tenths of an acre of tobacco.

Awards for this 4-H program are provided by the Virginia Dark Fired Tobacco Commission. Young people who are interested in the Dark Tobacco Program may contact the Extension Office for an appropriate project record book.

Tobacco awards programs are also available for young people who raise flue cured tobacco and Burley tobacco. The purpose of these programs is to help young people develop an interest and appreciation for growing tobacco.

Happiness is 4-H

By FRANK SWEET

Congratulations to the following top 4-H groups at Appomattox Elementary School for the 1982-83 school years. The winning classes were selected based on officer performance, class cooperation, and participation in 4-H programs and activites. The winning groups were: 4th grade - Mrs. Peggy George's class; 5th grade - Mrs. Fannie Walton's class and Mrs. Vivian Gosey's class; 6th grade - Mrs. Jean Mills' class. Mrs. Mills' class was also the most outstanding 4-H group in the entire school.

* * * *

Fifty-four 4-H'ers turned in June Dairy Posters this spring. Top winners in the poster program were: age group 9-11 - 1st Jon Hammer, 2nd Matt Wilbun, 3rd Celeste Bartelt. Age group 12-14 - Joanna Layne, 2nd Christ Barr, and 3rd Sharla Kvasnicka. The top posters in each age group will be forwarded to the State Dairy Poster Contest during the last week of June. The dairy poster program is sponsored by the American Dairy Association and encourages young people to learn about the importance of dairy products.

* * * *

Over 130 boys and girls have signed up to attend Holiday Lake 4-H Camp this summer. The last day to register for camp is Friday, June 10. The following adult leaders have agreed to help with the camp program this year: Mrs. Gladys Moon, Mrs. Jean Mills, Miss Tamara Nash, Mrs. Jeannie Clabough, Mr. Roy Moon and Mr. Michael Hancock.

* * * *

The Appomattox Extension Office has a supply of last year's Five County Fair catalogs. These can be used to plan for exhibits to be made in September of 1983. There are normally only a few class changes in the catalog from year to year. The fair catalogs should be available in early August.

* * * *

After many years we have a new 4-H Livestock Record Book to offer members who are raising lambs, beef cattle or hogs. The new 4-H project may be used for any of the livestock species and has been simplified to help members do a more complete job of record keeping. We should have a supply of these in the Extension Office by early July.

* * *

Information about Summer Clothing Classes has been sent to many 4-H'ers who have indicated an interest. Young people who are interested in learning to sew should call us at the Extension Office (352-8241)

Rescue squad gets 66 calls

During the month of May, the Appomattox County Rescue Squad responded to a total of 66 calls. In doing so, they travelled 2,728 miles and used 372 1/4 man hours.

A breakdown of calls is as follows: heart attack, 4; gun shot, 2; transport, 22; falls, 4; stroke, 2; stab wound, 1; D.O.A., 2; breathing difficulty, 6; diabetic, 3; chest pains, 7; maternity, 3; miscellaneous, 3; auto wreck, 1; stand-by, 3; convulsion, 2; abdominal pain, 1.

The South 40

Weather is right now for Blue Mold problem

By JAMES A. SMITH

Blue Mold is wide spead in flue cured tobacco fields in Florida. This is ideal weather for the spread of the disease. Four counties in North Carolina report blue mold in the plant bed.

If plant beds are still to be used, treat with Ridomil plus a protectant weekly.

As soon as you have finished with tobacco plant beds, plow or disc thoroughly -- seed with soybeans or peas.

* * *

Better play it safe -- burley fields need to be treated with Ridomil at 2 quarts/acre-- other tobacco types need 1 quart/acre.

* *

A Tel-O-Auction market hog sale has been established in cooperation with Lynchburg and Roanoke Livestock Markets. There are some simple rules: consignment by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, Sale will be held on Monday at 1:30 - take-up date is the following Tuesday, 9 - 11 a.m. Hogs will be state graded. Top hogs should weigh 210 to 240 pounds. Light and heavy weights plus No. 3s will be discounted on day of sale. Sale cost is $3.00 per head.

If we can help you further, please let us know.

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A number of wheat growers will find yields reduced at harvest time because of CLB injury. Injury is very heavy in a number of fields. It's too late to spray now in most fields.

* * * *

If you are a burley tobacco grower under the age of 35 and receive at least 75 percent of your income from farming, you could be a candidate for one of the Phillip Morris awards. The deadline is June 24.

* * * *

Mildew is frequently a problem with crepe myrtles. There are mildew resistant varieties on the market. Tuscarora has red flowers and Natchez has white flowers.

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We've had a number of calls about Azalea Leaf and Flower Gall. There is no spray to use, but do pull off affected growth and destroy.

* * * *

When tomatoes begin to flower, it's a signal that blight control needs to begin. There are a number of materials available--one that I've used for a number of years is Maneb--apply weekly to within 5 days of harvest, than change over to Captan.

* * * *

Tomatoes grow well in wire baskets--use 5 to 6 foot wide concrete reinforcing wire. It takes 5.5 linear feet to make a basket. Costs about $2.25 each.

* * * *

The May crop production report projects some interesting guidelines:

U.S. Corn acreage 69 million acres
Corn yields 6 million bushels+
Larger than expected wheat crop
Corn stocks at end of this marketing over 2 billion bushels
Wheat stocks about 1.4 billion bushels

This announcement has caused commodity prices to drop.

* * * *

Busy field work--long hours, tires, makes for a good time to become a farm accident victim.

The answer is get enough rest, use reasonable speed, have a roll-over protection device on the tractor. Children are out of school--they like to ride or drive the tractor. It's dangerous business. Modern farm equipment is adult business, let's keep it that way

Soil and water improvement opportunities are excellent

Farmers have an unparalleled opportunity this year to improve their soil and water conservation systems, says Peter Myers, Chief of the USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

Under the Payment-In-Kind (PIK) program and other acreage limitation programs, farmers in Appomattox County have taken 36% of the corn and 50% of the wheat acres out of production. With over 40% of this cropland pledged to the set aside program, farmers can put a great deal of soil and water conservation on the ground.

Some of the erosive and less productive acreage can be taken out of annual crop use and planted to grasses and legumes as cover crops. This has the potential for saving soil and water resources as well as building up natural fertility.

Myers said this is also a good time for planning ways to fit no-till or other conservation tillage methods into the farm operation.

On more erosive acres, permanent conservation practices such as terraces, grassed waterways, windbreaks and other enduring practices can be installed without interrrupting cash crop production.

On the most erosive or other marginal land, farmers are encouraged to discontinue use of those acres for crop production. Those acres may be best suited for permanent grasses, trees, or wildlife habitat.

The 1983 programs offer farmers a rare opportunity to balance their short-term cash needs with their longer conservation and productivity goals said Myers.

The Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District has worked with Appomattox Truck and Tractor, Inc. to provide a rental no-till seeder. This seeder can seed soybeans, small grain, alfalfa, clover and grass without conventional seedbed preparation. "This will give a farmer a chance to rent equipment that he couldn't afford to own at a price he can afford. No-till seeding can save oil, toil and soil and should work nicely on seeding set-aside land," says Bob McClenny, District Conservationist, SCS.

MARIA DAWN BEASLEY, 4, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Beasley of Appomattox, came away a winner in two recent pageants held at the Holiday Inn, Lynchburg in the 1983 Southeastern Virginia Pageant. She was crowned Miss Southeastern Sweetheart, winning a trophy and a banner. She was second runner up in the Southeastern, winning a trophy. In the May Beauty, Photogenic, and Fashion Queen Pageant, she was a winner for Best Sleep Wear, first runner up Miss May Beauty of 1983, Miss Fashion Star 1983, and crowned Miss Photogenic doe 1983 winning a trophy and a banner. (Photo by Bill Sherrod).

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